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SOME EXTRACTS FROM THE PAPERS OF GENERAL
PERSIFOR FRAZER.

(Continued from page 144)

TICONDEROGA Sept 1st, 1776.

My Dr Polly

Is it possible that you can have neglected Writing to me ; yet as so many Letters have been lately receiv'd in Camp, I cannot excuse you. Doctr Kennedy has receiv'd four since We came here, one of which was in answer, to that, inclos'd in mine to you from Lake George. I have not the satisfaction of acknowledging the receipt of a line since I left Long Island, though no safe conveyance escapes me. I have been unwell 5 or 6 days past, am now something better. I should be the better of the Cloaths I wrote for, as the Weather begins to be cool and very wett. I mention'd so many methods to you of forwarding Letters that you can have been at no loss in that respect. Mrs. Kennedy wou'd have inclos'd yours under her cover, as I mention'd, and wou'd have been the easiest and safest way for you. It would have given me the greatest pleasure to hear of the Wellfare of my Family and Friends. I must apply to some other person for that information, my best wishes await you all.

I am yr affectionate Husbd
Persr Frazer.

TICONDEROGA Sepr 9th, 1776.

My Dr Polly

I cannot address you in any other stile though I think you have treated me with the greatest neglect and indifference. I am sure you cannot find an excuse. I am certain of your having receiv'd the letter dated at Lake George and another by our Chaplain, and I dare say 6 or seven others that I have Wrote, as I always sent by good hands. Your inattention in not sending the necessaries I wrote for you possibly may account for but I do assure you I cannot forget. Doctr Kennedy receiv'd the day before yesterday a large bundle of Cloathing and scarce any body arrives but brings one or more letters to him. I shall now have no need of the Cloathg as the season demands that I should provide immediately. Mr. Morton who will forward this can convey any letter you may choose to write.

God Bless my Sweet Children

I am yr affect Husband
Persr Frazer

TICONDEROGA Sept 21st. 1776.

My Dearest Love

Mr. Jones arriv'd on Thursday last, by him I had the inexpressible satisfaction of receiving two letters from you, informing me of the health and welfare of yourself and my lovely little Children, I also receiv'd 2 letters from Nancy, one from Jimmy Thomson and One from Mr. Cheyney for wch i am extremely obliged to them, those are the only Letters I have receiv'd since I came to this place, except One from Mr. Morton who was so kind as to inform me of your Wellfare. I have not neglected any safe conveyance in Writing to you, my two last (at least one of them I am not certain in regard to the other) went under Cover to Mr. Morton. I do now most sincerely ask your pardon for the Coolness and hardness of those 2 letters as I find you have not been unmindful of me who never scarcely has you out of my thoughts, indeed you must when you understand that none of your letters before that time came to Hand Acct for the indifferency shown in those Letters, as my temper was sower'd by so many repeated disappointments. You will always find that I have mention'd in my Letters by whom the preceeding ones were sent, that you may have it in your Power to enquire should any of them Miscarry, should be very glad you would do the like, as any Villian that cou'd be found base enough to Stop or Open any letter wou'd be made a public Example of. I have had a very severe spell of the Flux and Bilious Fever it had reduced me very low and Weak I thank God I am now in good Spirits as ever, though very much reduced in Flesh. I had a severe Lax at the time Mr. Jones went away, but was not attackd with the other severe disorders till abt 4 weeks ago. I did not choose to mention any thing of this, as I know the ideas you wou'd have form'd of my situation, the Flux is not so fatal here as in Pennsylvia otherwise few of Us wou'd have been alive. Colonel Haussegger promises me that he will wait upon you with this. He can inform you of every thing you wou'd wish to know of our situation here. He and I have lived together ever since We came to Long Island to this time in the greatest Harmony. I am sure you will treat him with every possible mark of kindness and esteem.

Mr. Bartholomew, Mr. Seely and Mr. Griffith have all been very ill. Mr. Seely particularly has been given over by the Doctors at Lake George where he had gone, being a place where things necessary to his situation were more plenty than here, he is now return'd and will shortly be again fit for duty, the other two are also got very hearty. the Weather is getting cool and consequently more healthy. I expect to have the pleasure of seeing You and my dear Children, all my respected Friends and kind Neighbours in good Health abt the beginning of December, if not sooner. Our Commanding Officers are still firm in the Opinion that We shall be attack'd this Fall, if We are; I make no

doubt but that We shall make our enemies repent their rashness, I am sure Our Men will fight ; on every little alarm or Command they show the greatest readiness to turn out. Our News here from New York is indeed very bad, to loose so many Noble Heroes is almost irreparable, Poor Parry dy's like a Hero, a more firm Friend to America is not left, I cannot hear what has become of my Old Friend Anderson, The southern Troops should not be separated, the Loss of Long Island is very much against Us, I nevertheless hope that the Ardor which those repulses will Create in our Troops, will recover all those Misfortunes ; We have heard this Day that the Congress have sent 3 Commissioners to Amboy in order to settle with Lord Howe, God Grant they may agree upon terms Honorable and safe for America. A prisoner came in the other day from the Enemy and informs Us that they do not exceed 8000 regulars sick and well, that they have built a floating Battery mounting 24 eighteen Pounders, they have an Arm'd Sloop and a Schooner some Row Gally's and 300 Batteaus all this I do not think equal to our Fleet, We have now here three Row Gallies upwards of 60 feet long done off in the Strongest and neatest manner they will be ready to join the rest of our Fleet in a few days, each of them mount 2 large Cannon in their bow and 2 in their stern and four upon Deck they row with near 40 Oars and will have upwards of 150 men each. I saw an acct in one of the New England Papers that one of Fleet here was taken, there is not the least truth in the report, it was suspected the fleet had an Engagement with the Enemy about 10 days ago as a Firing for upwards of 2 hours was heard by the People of Crown Point it gave Us an alarm here as We thought the Enemy was advancing We afterward heard that Genl Arnold who Commanded the Fleet had sent a party of 16 men on Shore to cut fascines to lay along the sides of the Vessels, that a party of the Enemy who had heard of their being in the same place before, Fir'd upon our men kill'd 2 or 3 and wounded 6 upon which the Fleet drew near the shore and fir'd a Considerable time into the Woods but without any effect that they cou'd learn. We have understood by the deserter mention'd before, that there is a party of Indians and Canadians sent out by the Enemy to annoy us. Four Companies of Rifle Men went Yesterday and are not to return till tomorrow evening in search after them. Two or 3 of the Yankee Colonells have died lately more of them are sick, indeed the most of them look like spectres, miserable Creatures they are. the more I am acquainted with them the worse I like them, I hop'd it wou'd be otherwise. I was yesterday with Capt Robinson and Mr. Christie upon Mount Independance the other side the Lake where the Chief of the New Englanders are encamp'd, upon our return in the Evening We were Oblige'd to wait a short time for a boat that was Coming over, when it came to shore and the Passengers were Landing, I espy'd our servant Jacob Down that ran away from Us. I laid hold

of him, ask'd him if he knew me, he deny'd he had ever seen me, when I told him my name, after a considerable time he thought proper to recollect me, he had enlisted in Massachusetts, where I understand he was Born. I brot him over with me, his Captain came over shortly after. He and I have this day been about agreeing for his Price. I believe I shall get 51 dollars for him which is abt the sune he Cost me. I always expected to see him in the army and there has been scarce a guard, Company or Battallion collected on this ground but I have had my Eyes employ'd looking out for him.

Our Fleet is down the Lake at Ile of Mott abt 100 miles below this place. In regard to what you mention of Job Fallows, Mr. Potts can have no pretensions to the meadows but what Job himself gave him untill his lease expir'd, when he begins to quibble it is high time to bring him to his senses, I wou'd have Jemmy and you not wait a moment as you will have no thanks—after the first of November We shall have the matter settled here whether the Enemy comes or not. I intend then to apply for permission to go Home, which I doubt not will be granted. We expect our Regiment will be order'd Home by that time tho' this is uncertain. For God's sake let no opportunity slip. Mr. Morton or Mrs. Kennedy will forward your letter safe. I want stockings and shirts badly. I am not certain whether I shall be promoted or not, it is talk'd of. I want it not, My most sincere respects attend all Friends and Relations. I have not room to mention their names. My best Love to my lovely Children.

I am my Dearest Polly yr ever affectionate Husband

Persr Frazer.

P. S. Just as I was sealing this, news came into Camp that one Lieut Whitlow of the New Englanders and who kill'd General Gordon is just come in here with two Officers Prisoners he took near St Johns, he having been again sent out on a scout what news they bring I cannot yet hear.

Octo 2d 1776

My Dearest Love

I Received this Evening your two Cruel Letters one of the 1st and one of the 9th Septr which has been the mose Sever Stroke I have met with Sence our unhapy parting as my thoughts hase run Chiefly on this Day ten yeares I hav Spent the Greatest peart of the Day in the new Land you Charge me with neglect which I do assure you is Quite Rounge you are Scarce ever out of my thoughts this is 8th Letter I hav Sent I have every thing redy for you that you Rote for Except the white Cloath and that I expect in a few Days I Should hav Sent Some of them be now but for want opertunity I have Spaird now paines I have been three times in Philadelphia Sence you Left mee to

try to Get your things Sent but was all ways Disapinted I have now Some hoope of Sending them as Mr Henry is in Town you Say you Can-not forget the respect Mrs Kennedy Shose by Send Letter and necessaries to hor Husband you will please to remember Doer Kennedy Rode 100 miles in the heate of Somer to See his wife you will Like wise remember that Mrs Kennedy is Settuated on the Great Rode Sid with every possibly advantaige your friends and Relation and Children are all well it wold give me Great Satisfaction to hare of your helth and well fair againe I am

my Dear Percy your affectionate wife
Mary Worrall Frazer

TICONDEROGA Octo. 2nd 1776.

My Dr Polly

I wrote you the 23d ulto pr Colo Haussegger since which time little has transpir'd worth notice. We are in much the same situation and I am much reinstated in my health. I have receiv'd no acct since Mr. Jones from you. When We shall leave this place I can give you no acct of. There has been no further acct of the Enemies motions, and am more and more confirm'd in my mind that they will not make an Attempt upon Us this Season. Our Superior Officers are of a different Opinion still. Two fine Row Gallies are to go down the Lake to join the Fleet this day, one went down a few days since, and another is expected to be here from Skenesborough tomorrow, they mount from 8 to 10 large Cannon each and will have abt 100 Men on board each of them. I am in great want of Shirts and Stockings and other matters the weather is getting very cold almost the whole of our Regiment have got good Chimneys built to their Tents and many of the soldiers have got good warm huts built, wch makes them live much more comfortable than they otherwise wou'd do. I was the other day by Order of Genl Gates appointed Major to our Battalion untill the pleasure of Congress shall be known, there is another Major of my name at this place. The news from New York is not so good as I wou'd wish but think upon the whole We shall before the campaign ends turn the Tables upon our Foes, do when you write give me more full acct of things it gives me great satisfaction to hear of every matter from you. I shall make a push in abt 6 weeks to get leave to go Home as nothing can be expected here after that time am in some hopes I shall obtain Liberty how it will be is however uncertain. I wou'd not wish to go while there is any probability of Action. I am sorry so many novices are appointed in Pennsa at the head of affairs, none but men of the first Character for knowledge and probity shou'd now be at the helm. The Gale is boisterous and requires men of the best abilities to manage the Vessel and steer clear of rocks and shoals.

Give my most unfeigned Love and respect to Nancy Peirce. Sally and Jemmy, Isaac and Betsy, Tommy Cheyney, Tommy Taylor, Billy Johnston and Wife my good old friend Joseph Gibbons and family and all other enquiring friends, may a kind heaven smile upon you and my dear Children no man on earth will be more happy than I to meet you and them in health and prosperity.

I am my Dearest Polly your most
Affectionate Husband
Persifor Frazer.

TICONDEROGA October 13th, 1776.

My Dearest

Last night an express arriv'd hear from Crown Point informing that a Canonading was heard the day before yesterday for a considerable time which they conjectur'd was an Engagement between the Enemies Fleet and ours, this morning three Guns were heard at this place fired at Crown Point wch was to be the signal of the Enymies advancing the Guns were afterwards repeat'd, which confirmed US that they were advancing, shortly after an Express Boat arriv'd confirming our suspicions and acquainted that a very severe engagement had been between our Fleet and the Enemies yesterday and the day before, that the Enemy had lost two of their Arm'd Vessels wch were sunk and abt 100 Men in them drowned as also that others of their Vessels were very much hurt, the greatest part of this Forenoon We heard distinctly at this place an almost continual cannonading which ceased about 3 o'clock, two of our Vessels have since come here and say that our Fleet had the worst of the engagement that 4 or 5 Gondolas are taken or destroy'd as also 2 Row Gallies, the greatest part if not all the men in them had got on shore, one of the Vessels has brought a Number of Wounded, she being set apart for an Hospital to the Fleet. The Enemies number amounted to about Thirty sail arm'd Vessels and our 14 or 15 wch engag'd. The Army of ye Enemy are certainly advancing and expect by the day after tomorrow at the furthest that they will be here. We are all this day preparing to receive them properly and hope we shall behave in such a manner as to bring Credit to our Country and the Cause.

October 14th.

Last night the sixth Pennsa Battallion arriv'd here from Crown Point, they having destroy'd the Buildings and abandon'd that place it was occupied only as an out Post and was to be deserted on the approach of the Enemy. The loss of our fleet is greater than We at first understood. Out of Sixteen Sail, only 5 have return'd 2 are taken, the remainder destroy'd chiefly by our People, as they were surrounded by the Enemy, General Arnold with about 200 men of the Fleet

arriv'd here last night, he had the chief Command, the Vessel in wch he was he ran on shore and set fire to, and came here abt 30 miles by land Our men seem in high Spirits and have great expectations from their Courage.

We are all kept very busy in getting matters in proper order.

How it will be with myself i can't say, but hope I shall not bring any dishonour on my Family or Country. Death is far preferable in my opinion to a Life of infamy. Our success here will be attended with the best Consequence, it will prevent the intended plan of junction between the two armies, I hope we shall effect it; I think we shall at least so weaken them that it will render that scheme abortive for this season, we have not heard of the strength of the Enemy's land forces, they had stop'd about 5 Miles below Crown Point when the last accts came away I suppose to Consult what was to be next done. I shall write you by every opportunity, this is to be forwarded by Capt Robinson of our Regiment who is going to Fort George Sick. Hope for the best my Dr Polly, Providence may have many happy Days in Store for Us. Let Us endeavor however to deserve its blessings. My most unfeigned ardent Prayers await you and my Lovely Children, my best respects to mammy Pierce, Nancy, Sally, Sally Thompson and Jemmy, Betsy Taylor and Isaac all my other Relations and good Friends and neighbors.

I am your affectionate and ever Loving Husband.

Persifor Frazer.

TICONDEROGA NOVEMB 18th, 1776.

My Dearest Polly

I received your inestimable letters of the 2nd, 15th, and 20th of October by Mr. Lucas as also One from Mr. Cheyney and One from Nancy, it gives me the highest satisfaction to understand you, the Children and all our Friends are in such good Health, my dear little Mary Ann Excepted who I hope is recovered as you inform me she was better.

I am surpriz'd Col. Haussegger did not go to see you as he promis'd me in the most punctual manner that he would not neglect it. I cou'd make out pretty well without the Cloaths, if I had the Stockings, as they are the Articles I am most in need of, it will be needless to send any of them now, as I have this day obtain'd permission to set off from here in Company with Doc. Kennedy the first of next Month and hope in 10 days from that time I shall be happy in the Company of you my sweet Children and my Friends.—This day I went with others to Lake George to bid Farewell to Genl Gates who is going to Philada Genl Arnold and Genl Brickett also went with him. He deserves great Praise for his conduct at this place, No man could have in my opinion done more nor have given more General satisfaction than he has; it

would surprize any Person to see what has been done since our first arrival here. Colonel Wayne has now the Command entirely at this place. The first Pennsylvania Battallion with two of the Jerseys went from this on Friday last 6 or 7 New England Regimts have march'd since that time and in a few days all those that are not to stay the winter will decamp. Three of the Pennsylvania Regimts One of the Jerseys and as many New England Troops as will make abt 2500 are to form a Garrison for this place until fresh Troops are sent to relieve them, it was with a good deal of trouble I obtain'd Liberty to leave them, as Colonel Johnson and Capt Robinson left this Sick some time ago. But as the danger from the Enemy is now entirely at an End and our People will have got into Barracks by the time I shall go away and very little can be done more this Winter I was very urgent untill I obtain'd Permission, A number of our young officers are to go tomorrow or next day recruiting for the Regiment I expect Mr. Bartholomew will go and he promises to deliver you this immediately on his getting home.

He is a very worthy Young Fellow and a most excellent Officer. I had wrote the inclos'd just as I receiv'd your letters. by it and what Mr. Bartholomew can inform, you will have a pretty just acct of our transactions here since the Enemies approach. A few days after they abandon'd Crown Point a flag of Truce was sent from hence after them with an English Officer who had been taken in Canada last Spring and whom the Congress had permitted to return to his family, the main intention was to discover their situation as the officer had arrived here before the Enemy had retreated. Yesterday the Boat return'd and We learn that our People that went wth the Flag had been very ill used by General Phillips and the other scoundrells there, who no longer pay any regard to acts of generosity and humanity. Their army is gone into Winter Quarters their Fleet unrigg'd General Burgoyne gone to England to give a splendid account of their illustrious actions and prudent retreat from an army not equal in number and who they affect to despise in order to inspire their Villainous Mercenary Hirelings with courage wch they will stand much in need of when they attempt this place, if We have an army equal to the One We have had, though much Weaken'd by sickness, and struggling with many other difficulties which experience and attention will supply the next Season. It may be expected they will indeavor to attack us early in the spring and no pains should be spared to be in readiness. I am I thank God very well reinstated in my Health. The weather has been extreemly pleasant 6 or 7 Weeks past the air is sharp and clear and we can see the Mountains cover'd with Snow about 30 or 40 Miles off, I live very Warm and comfortable in my Tent We have no great variety of provision Beef and Bread being the standing Dish, I have been very happy in living in great Harmony with every Body here. The being absent from you

gives me the most uneasiness. I have been frequently employ'd in doing matters distinct from my Duty in the Regiment and have I believe yielded satisfaction. Colonel Wayne is in the highest esteem for his Spirit attention to discipline and the service he has done in the Engineer department, the works on this side being almost entirely under his direction and indeed few excell him in any thing in the Military Line, One or two Generals and all the older Colonells were sent off the Ground in order to make room for him to Command. It gives me the highest satisfaction that my good friends and neighbours should treat you with so much kindness and attention. I should never forget their favours and hope to have it in my power to acknowledge and repay them for their friendship.

Col. Wayne, Doctr Kennedy, Mr Harper and all your other acquaintance are well. Please to inform Mrs. Cheyney that I have made all possible enquiry concerning her Brother, I apprehend he went wth Genl Arnold from Cambridge last year into Canada and as none of the Troops that went on that expedion are now or have been at this place this Season it is not likely I shall be able to hear of him as I imagine he must have gone with the Rifle Companys who were most of them taken Prisoners last Winter at Quebec and as those prisoners I understand are sent home it is most probable by finding out and enquiring of some of those Persons an account may be had of him. Mr. Cheyney will be kind enough to excuse my not answering his letter; I am twenty times in an Hour interrupted. I am very much obliged to him for the information he gave relating to affairs in our Country. I hope e'er long there will be but one opinion, at there is but one interest in Pennsylvania. I think the convention were not politic in making so many alterations from the old establishment. Give my most sincere compliments to Mr. Brinton (tell him I hope to taste some of his good Liquors before Christmas.) as also to my good Friends Cheyney, Jacob Vernon old Nr. Gibbons, Billy Johnson and wife. My Love and respects to Mammy Pierce (who I am sorry to hear is unwell) to Sally Thomson Betsy Taylor, Nancy, Sally Vernon and Isaac and Jemmy and Polly Pierce and every other my good Neighbours and Friends my best Love awaits you and my lovely little Children. I am my Dear Polly.

Your ever affectionate Husband

Persifor Frazer

To be continued.)